

**Lines of Analysis:** There are differing points of view about where groundwater impacts should be calculated. It has been suggested that analysis at the disposal facility boundaries is needed. The points of analyses used in the HSW EIS comparative assessment were located along lines approximately 1 kilometer downgradient from aggregate Hanford solid waste disposal facilities within the 200 East, 200 West, and the ERDF areas and near the Columbia River located downgradient from all disposal facilities. These points of analysis downgradient from the overall waste disposal facilities in each area are not meant to represent points of compliance but rather common locations to facilitate a more complete comparison of long-term impacts from various waste management configurations and locations defined for each alternative.

**Land Use:** There are differing points of view about actions on the Hanford Site that use additional land for waste management actions, particularly those actions not directly associated with Hanford cleanup operations.

**Use of Area C Borrow Pit:** There are differing points of view over the use of the Area C borrow pit for obtaining geological materials for construction of disposal facilities covers.

## S.9 Public Interaction Process

This section provides a brief summary of our public interaction process that has led to the development of this revised draft of the HSW EIS.

### Scoping Process

**Initial Scoping for the HSW EIS:** To determine the scope of the issues to be addressed in the HSW EIS, we issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS in 1997. We requested comments and recommendations from interested parties on the range of actions, alternatives, and impacts we should consider and we held public scoping meetings. We received both oral and written comments. In response to these comments, along with DOE-wide decisions reflected in the WM PEIS Records of Decision, we restructured and revised some of our alternatives and projected waste volumes from those originally presented in the 1997 Notice of Intent for the HSW EIS. This scoping process and the other key events that have led to the preparation of the revised draft of this EIS are illustrated in Figure S.20.

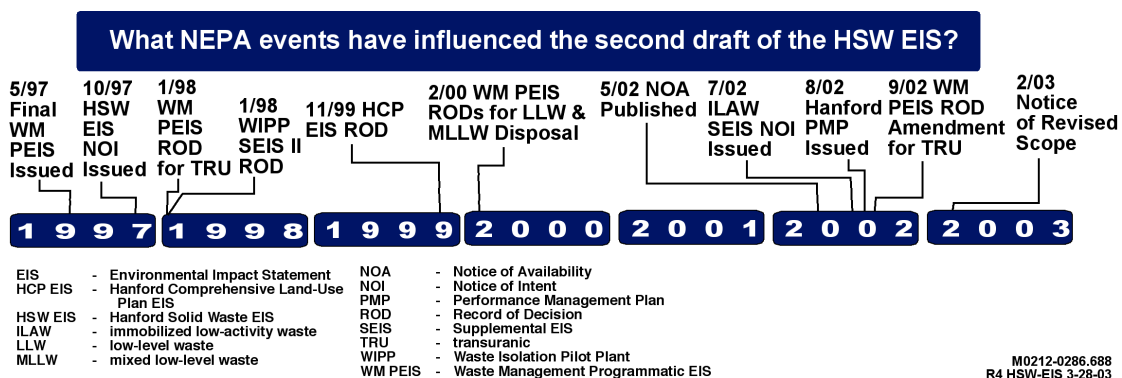


Figure S.20. HSW EIS Development Timeline

1       **Scoping for ILAW Disposal Alternatives:** On July 8, 2002, DOE published a Notice of Intent in  
2 the *Federal Register* announcing our plan to prepare the Tank Waste Remediation System (TWRS)  
3 Supplemental EIS for the disposal of ILAW. During the scoping period, we invited all interested parties  
4 to submit comments or suggestions concerning the scope of the issues, alternatives, and environmental  
5 impacts to be analyzed in a TWRS Supplemental EIS and we held a public scoping meeting in Richland,  
6 Washington. For those who commented, one of the concerns was that disposal of ILAW at Hanford  
7 should be considered with disposal of other similar radioactive wastes, such as LLW and MLLW, and  
8 should be included in the HSW EIS. In response to this concern we decided to include the ILAW analysis  
9 in the HSW EIS. Consequently, all topics that were originally identified in the Notice of Intent for  
10 consideration in a TWRS Supplemental EIS are now addressed in this revised draft of the HSW EIS, and  
11 all comments on ILAW generated during the scoping phase of the TWRS Supplemental EIS are now  
12 included in Appendix A of the HSW EIS. DOE published a Notice of Revised Scope in the *Federal*  
13 *Register* on February 12, 2003 (68 FR 7110).  
14

## 15       **Comments on the First Draft of the HSW EIS**

16

17       As a result of our public involvement activities on the first draft of the HSW EIS, we received  
18 approximately 3,800 comments. We reviewed these comments and considered them both individually  
19 and collectively. In Section S.3 of this summary, we briefly listed the key concerns we heard as a result  
20 of the public review, and we have described how those comments have influenced the development of the  
21 revised draft of the HSW EIS. The revised draft of the HSW EIS is an extensive rewrite, which is  
22 intended to address these concerns.  
23

24       We have also prepared a Comment Response Document (Volume III) to provide responses to the  
25 public comments on the first draft of the HSW EIS. The Comment Response Document provides  
26 responses to comments received. In addition, in the Comment Response Document we also provide  
27 summary responses to a number of common issues and questions. We describe our role in managing  
28 Hanford's cleanup and waste management operations and our intentions for accelerating the cleanup at  
29 Hanford. We also provide additional details on the relationship between this HSW EIS and other NEPA  
30 documents, including the Waste Management Programmatic EIS, our approach to the development of  
31 alternatives, analysis of the impacts of offsite waste (including transportation issues), and our approach to  
32 understanding cumulative impacts. We also respond to the concerns over the technical content and scope  
33 of the HSW EIS, including depth of analysis, disposal facility design details and alternatives, and long-  
34 term performance.  
35

## 36       **Public Comment Process for the Revised Draft of the HSW EIS**

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38       We encourage public comments on this revised draft of the HSW EIS. Information on the availability  
39 of this draft and the schedule for public meetings was sent to anyone who requested it, attended a past  
40 public meeting, or submitted comments on the first draft. Comments may be submitted verbally at public  
41 meetings or in writing by mail, fax, or email. We will consider all comments received during the  
42 designated comment period. The final HSW EIS will include responses to the comments received on this  
43 revised draft of the HSW EIS.  
44

1 No sooner than 30 days after the EPA Notice of Availability of the Final HSW EIS, DOE will issue  
2 one or more Record(s) of Decision. We will describe the substance of the decision, the alternatives  
3 considered in reaching our decision, and the environmentally preferred alternative. We will also identify  
4 and discuss any additional factors we used to make our decision and any mitigating actions we propose to  
5 avoid or minimize adverse environmental consequences from the actions we decide to implement. If such  
6 a document is required, we will prepare a Mitigation Action Plan to establish our specific mitigation  
7 commitments.  
8

9 Comments on this revised draft HSW EIS may be submitted in person at the public meetings or:

10  
11 By mail:

12 Michael S. Collins  
13 HSW EIS Document Manager  
14 Richland Operations Office  
15 U.S. Department of Energy, A6-38  
16 P.O. Box 550  
17 Richland, WA 99352-0550  
18

19 By facsimile:

20 Michael S. Collins  
21 (509) 372-1926  
22

23 By electronic mail:

24 hsweis@rl.gov  
25

## 26 **S.10 References**

27  
28 40 CFR 1500-1508. "Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural  
29 Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act." U.S. Code of Federal Regulations. Online at:  
30 [http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx\\_01/40cfrv28\\_01.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_01/40cfrv28_01.html).  
31

32 42 USC 6901 et seq. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976. Online at:  
33 <http://www4.law.cornell.edu>.  
34

35 42 USC 9601, et seq. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act  
36 (CERCLA) of 1980. Online at: <http://www4.law.cornell.edu>.  
37

38 68 FR 7110. "Notice of Revised Scope for the Hanford Site (Radioactive and Hazardous) Waste Program  
39 Environmental Impact Statement, Richland, WA." *Federal Register* (February 12, 2003). Online at:  
40 [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/aces/aces140.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html).  
41

42 DOE. 1987. *Final Environmental Impact Statement for Disposal of Hanford Defense High-Level,*  
43 *Transuranic, and Tank Wastes*. DOE/EIS-0113, U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office,  
44 Richland, Washington.  
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